



40 Years
Serving America

AmeriCorps★VISTA



GENERAL BACKGROUND

*AmeriCorps*VISTA helps individuals and communities implement grassroots solutions designed to alleviate poverty. Founded as Volunteers in Service to America in 1965, the program places individuals at nonprofit organizations and public agencies that are fighting illiteracy, improving health services, reducing unemployment, increasing housing opportunities, reducing recidivism, and expanding access to technology for those living in rural and urban areas of poverty across America. Among other activities, AmeriCorps*VISTA members, who serve full time for a year, recruit community volunteers, raise funds, help manage projects, and otherwise build the capacity of nonprofit organizations to become sustainable. Since the program began, more than 177,000 individuals have served as VISTA volunteers, and they continue to give back to their country in a myriad of ways.*



AMERICORPS★VISTA STATISTICS FOR 2005:

• Number of Members	6,707
• Number of Project Sponsors	1,638
• Community Volunteers Recruited/Managed	509,000
• Volunteers Recruited/Managed per Member	76
• Hours Served by VISTA Members	11.4 million
• Hours Served by Recruited Volunteers	7.2 million
• Amount of Non-Federal Cash Raised	\$104.9 million
• Value of In-Kind Resources Raised	\$51.9 million
• Children of Prisoners Mentored	6,126
• Number of People Placed in Jobs	6,500
• Fiscal Year 2005 Budget	\$94.24 million
• Fiscal Year 2006 Budget	\$95.46 million

OTHER FACTS

- More than half the organizations with which members serve have 10 or fewer employees.

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FACT SHEET

- Nearly 15 percent of AmeriCorps*VISTA members are assigned to projects that support the work of faith-based organizations.
- 81 percent of former VISTA members continue to volunteer in their communities after their term of service ends.

MEMBER ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFITS

AmeriCorps*VISTA is open to U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents age 18 and older. Upon successful completion of their service, members receive either an AmeriCorps Education Award of \$4,725 to pay for college, graduate school, or to pay back qualified student loans, or a \$1,200 stipend. During their service, members receive a living allowance, as well as health care, childcare, training, relocation expenses, and liability insurance.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

AmeriCorps*VISTA is part of AmeriCorps, a network of national and community service programs that each year supports the engagement of more than 70,000 Americans in intensive service to meet critical needs in education, the environment, public safety, homeland security, and other areas. AmeriCorps is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, which also administers Senior Corps and Learn and Serve America. The mission of the Corporation is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. Together with USA Freedom Corps, the Corporation is working to foster a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility in America. For more information, visit www.nationalservice.gov.

MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about AmeriCorps*VISTA, visit www.americorps.gov/vista or call 800-942-2677 or TTY 800-833-3722.

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